



Minnesota Ag News – Sheep and Lambs

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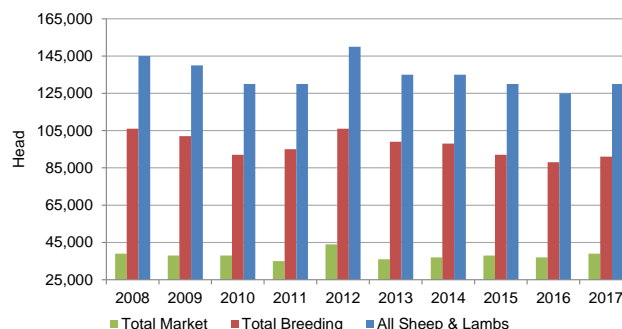
Cooperating with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture

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All sheep and lambs inventory in Minnesota as of January 1, 2017, totaled 130,000 head, increasing 4 percent from 2016, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Sheep and Goats* report. Total **breeding stock**, at 91,000 head, was 3 percent more than a year ago. Compared to last year, **market sheep and lambs** increased 5 percent to 39,000 head. The **lamb crop** for 2016 totaled 90,000 head. **Wool** production for the State was 790,000 pounds, up 3 percent from last year.

Sheep and Lamb Inventory - Minnesota: January 1



All Sheep and Lambs, Number by Class – Minnesota and United States: January 1, 2016 and 2017

Class	Minnesota			United States		
	2016	2017	2017 as % of 2016	2016	2017	2017 as % of 2016
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All sheep and lambs	125.0	130.0	104	5,300.0	5,200.0	98
Total breeding sheep	88.0	91.0	103	3,945.0	3,855.0	98
Ewes	70.0	72.0	103	3,105.0	3,035.0	98
Rams	4.0	5.0	125	175.0	170.0	97
Replacement lambs	14.0	14.0	100	665.0	650.0	98
Total market	37.0	39.0	105	1,355.0	1,345.0	99

Lamb Crop – Minnesota and United States: 2015 and 2016

	Minnesota			United States		
	2015	2016	2016 as % of 2015	2015	2016	2016 as % of 2015
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Lamb crop	90.0	90.0	100	3,275.0	3,250.0	99

Wool Production, Price and Value – Minnesota and United States: 2015 and 2016

Class	Minnesota			United States		
	2015	2016	2016 as % of 2015	2015	2016	2016 as % of 2015
Sheep shorn.....(1,000 head)	120.0	127.0	106	3,675.0	3,560.0	97
Weight per fleece.....(pounds)	6.4	6.2	97	7.4	7.2	97
Production.....(1,000 pounds)	770	790	103	27,015	25,740	95
Price per pound.....(dollars)	0.79	0.62	78	1.45	1.45	100
Value ¹(1,000 dollars)	608	490	81	39,205	37,214	95

¹ Production multiplied by marketing year average price. United States value is the summation of State values.

United States Narrative

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2017 totaled 5.20 million head, down 2 percent from 2016. **Breeding sheep** inventory at 3.86 million head on January 1, 2017, decreased 2 percent from 3.95 million head on January 1, 2016. **Ewes one year old and older**, at 3.04 million head, were 2 below last year. **Market sheep and lambs** on January 1, 2017 totaled 1.35 million head, down 1 percent from January 1, 2016. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total market inventory. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total market inventory.

The 2016 **lamb crop** of 3.25 million head was down 1 percent from 2015. The 2016 **lambling rate** was 105 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2016, unchanged from 2015.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2016 was 25.7 million pounds, down 5 percent from 2015. **Sheep and lambs shorn** totaled 3.56 million head, down 3 percent from 2015. The average price paid for wool sold in 2016 was \$1.45 per pound for a total value of 37.2 million dollars, down 5 percent from 39.2 million dollars in 2015.

Sheep death loss during 2016 totaled 217 thousand head, down 5 percent from 2015. **Lamb death loss** decreased 1 percent from 374 thousand head to 372 thousand head in 2016.

All Sheep and Lamb Inventory – United States: January 1

Thousand head

